

Grading Criteria

Strings

PHILOSOPHY AND FUNCTION:

The primary function of the instrumental music program is to develop students' skills in:

- **Performing** a varied repertoire of music
- **Reading** and **notating** (writing) music
- **Listening** to, **analyzing**, and **describing** music
- **Evaluating** music and musical performances
- **Understanding** music in relation to history and culture

In addition to the musical training that students receive by performing in ensembles, students learn cooperation and teamwork, commitment, tolerance, and acceptance.

To demonstrate competence in these areas, students will complete a variety of graded tasks.

EVALUATION:

Grades will be based upon demonstration of course outcome competencies, as evidenced by:

- Formative Performance-Based Assessments
 - Technical Assessment
 - Performance Assessment
 - Rehearsal Preparation
- Formative and Summative Written Assessments
- Summative Performance-Based Assessments

Orchestra - Summative assessments will constitute 60% of the course grade. Formative assessments will constitute 40% of the course grade. This balance encourages reflective creative processes but also values the final product.

Honors Orchestra - Summative assessments will constitute 70% of the course grade. Formative assessments will constitute 30% of the course grade. This balance values reflective creative process but emphasizes the importance of a high-quality final product.

ASSESSMENTS:

- **Formative Performance-Based Assessments**
 - **Technical Assessment** of scales & technique:

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
Freshman	D & G Major b & e minor (♩ = 60)	C & F Major a & d minor (♩ = 60)	Bb & Eb Major g & c minor G Chromatic (♩ = 60)	E & A Major c# & f# minor (♩ = 60)	Cumulative
Sophomore	D & G Major b & e minor (♩ = 80)	C & F Major a & d minor (♩ = 80)	Bb & Eb Major g & c minor G Chromatic (♩ = 80)	E & A Major c# & f# minor (♩ = 80)	Cumulative
Junior	D & G Major b & e minor (♩ = 100)	C & F Major a & d minor (♩ = 100)	Bb & Eb Major g & c minor G Chromatic (♩ = 100)	E & A Major c# & f# minor (♩ = 100)	Cumulative

Senior	D & G Major b & e minor (♩ = 120)	C & F Major a & d minor (♩ = 120)	Bb & Eb Major g & c minor G Chromatic (♩ = 120)	E & A Major c# & f# minor (♩ = 120)	Cumulative
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- All scales must be performed/recorded at least two weeks before the end of the grading period.
- Scales must be played as written in “Superior Strings in Sixteen Weeks.” Freshman and Sophomore may play the scales from the book; Juniors and Seniors must play the scales from memory.
- Technical assessment grades of less than “C” should be retaken for a higher grade.
- **Performance Assessment** of solo/ensemble literature:
 - Students will be asked to perform/record representative sections of literature being studied in order to demonstrate competence and identify areas for continued improvement.
 - All performance assessments must be performed/recorded at least one week before the end of the grading period.
- **Rehearsal Preparation**
 - Students are expected to come to all rehearsals with instrument, music, pencil, and school agenda book. This is essential for success!!
 - Rehearsals are not practice sessions! Quality home practice directly affects individual, as well as group learning. Students are expected to take their instruments home at the end of the school day and practice assigned homework material in preparation for the next class meeting. Students who are having difficulty with their assigned music should schedule an appointment with Mr. Stevenson.
- **Formative and Summative Written Assessments**

Formative written assignments will include daily in-class and homework assignments, as well as larger-scale formative projects and summative assessments. Honors-level students will be required to complete more summative written assessments than students enrolled in Concert Band I.
- **Summative Performance-Based Assessments**

All band and orchestra members are expected to attend all scheduled performances and rehearsals in appropriate concert attire. Every student plays a unique and important role in the success of the ensemble. Absences may be honored if the procedure outlined in the Instrumental Music Handbook is followed.

SECOND CHANCE LEARNING POLICY:

Students may request to work in a practice room during FLEX to finish assignments prior to due date.

Summative projects are to be completed by the due date. Whatever portion of work is completed will be graded. Summative projects may be resubmitted with improvements for reassessment by the end of the quarter marking period in which they are assigned. The final grade for all such work will be the average of the initial grade and the resubmission.

It is the student's responsibility to make up all work missed due to an absence. Refer to the CCPS policy for make-up work.

Extra credit will not be accepted as a substitute for missed work.